United Nations E/ICEF/2016/P/L.37

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
11 July 2016

Original: English

For decision

United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2016
14-16 September 2016
Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Extensions of ongoing country programmes

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the two-month extension of the country programme for Haiti; the first one-year extension of the area programme for Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine, and the first one-year extension of the country programme for Sudan, approved by the Executive Director.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed two-month extension of the country programme for Botswana, following a two-year extension; the second consecutive one-year extensions of the country programmes for Malawi and Somalia; the second consecutive two-year extension of the country programme for Burundi; and the third consecutive one-year extension of the country programme for Libya. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the two-month extension of the country programme for Haiti; the first one-year extension of the area programme for Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine; and the first one-year extension of the country programme for Sudan, which were approved by the Executive Director and are presented in table 1.

2. *Approves* the proposed two-month extension of the country programme for Botswana, following a two-year extension; the second consecutive one-year extensions of the country programmes for Malawi and Somalia; the second consecutive two-year extension of the country programme for Burundi; and the third consecutive one-year extension of the country programme for Libya, as presented in table 2.

*E/ICEF/2016/13.

16-11852 (E) 050816

Please recycle

Table 1

First extensions of one year (or less) of ongoing country/area programmes approved by the Executive Director

UNICEF-assisted country/area programme	*Original programme period*	*Year/period approved for extension*	*Reasons for the extension*
Haiti	2013-2016	Jan.-Feb. 2017 *two-month extension*	- To align with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on the presentation of the new 2017-2021 country programme documents (CPDs) to their Executive Board during the first regular session of 2017. - To cover the period between January to February 2017 until Board approval of the new CPD, with a start date of 1 January 2017.
Palestinian children and women in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the State of Palestine - Area programme document	2015-2016	2017 *one-year extension*	- To align with the time frame of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which has been extended for one year and currently covers the period 2014-2017. - The extension will align the UNICEF area programme with the new UNDAF, 2018-2022 as well as the programme cycles of other United Nations agencies. - The extension of the UNDAF is in line with national priorities in the Palestinian National Policy Agenda (2017-2022), which is being developed in 2016. - As Jordan, Lebanon, the State of Palestine and the Syrian Arab Republic are dealing with the ongoing sub-regional humanitarian response, the one-year extension will allow the four countries to strategically position the next area programme within the emerging context in the region, and to better link the area programme document to interventions in their respective CPDs and humanitarian appeals.
Sudan	2013-2016	2017 *one-year extension*	- Elections were held in April 2015 and the formation of the Government was finalized in June 2015. This delayed consultations on the elaboration of a new National Development Strategic Paper (2017-2021). - The Government approved the request from the United Nations country team (UNCT) for an extension of the 2012-2016 UNDAF by one year to ensure alignment of the new UNDAF, 2018-2021 with the 2018-2021 Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the National Development Strategic Plan.

Table 2
Extensions of ongoing country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested

UNICEF-assisted country programme	*Original programme period, including previous extensions*	*Period proposed for extension*	*Reasons for extension*		
			In-country development	*United Nations harmonization*	*Implementation or other issues*
Botswana	2010-2014 (Previously extended for two years until 2016)	Jan.-Feb. 2017 *two-month extension, following a two-year extension*	The Government of Botswana 11th National Development Plan will be finalized in late 2016 after the government's Vision 2036 framework is completed in May 2016.	The UNCT agreed to postpone submission of CPDs from UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF to their respective Executive Board sessions in January and February 2017, in order to align the 2017-2021 UNDAF and CPDs to national development plans.	The new CPD of the Government of Botswana and UNICEF will be submitted at the 2017 first regular session of the UNICEF Executive Board, with a start date of 1 January 2017.
Burundi	2010-2014 (Previously extended for two years until 2016)	2018 *second consecutive two-year extension*	The governance crisis has slowed implementation of the second Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the UNDAF.	The 2012-2016 UNDAF has been extended for one year until 2017. The extension of the CPD will align with the extension of the UNDAF.	The priorities, assumptions and strategies that underpin the current country programme remain valid, including the response to the ongoing emergency.
Libya	2013-2014 (Previously extended twice for one year, until 2016)	2017 *third consecutive one-year extension*	On 17 December 2015, the Libyan Political Agreement of Skhirat, Morocco was signed and subsequently the Government of National Accord was formed.	In light of the country context, the UNCT requested a third one-year extension of the current country programme cycle. The Government endorsed the extension of the UNICEF and UNDP country programmes until December 2017. The UNCT and the Government of National	Planning for the next Government of Libya and UNICEF country programme has not yet started due to the recent political changes in the country.

				Accord are working to develop a 2017-2019 Strategic Framework that will support the government's priorities.	
Malawi	2012-2016 (Previously extended to 2017)	2018 *second consecutive one-year extension*	The UNCT obtained approval from the Government to extend the 2012-2017 UNDAF for one more year to align it with the new national development plan.	As agreed by other United Nations agencies in the UNCT, the extension of the country programmes will allow for alignment with the UNDAF and the next national development plan.	The new national development plan is expected to be completed in late 2016 and will be the basis for the UNDAF and United Nations agency CPDs.
Somalia	2011-2015 (Previously extended for one year until 2016)	2017 *second consecutive one-year extension*	The one-year extension will ensure that the country programme responds to the national development plan, once finalized.	The Senior Management Group and UNCT have agreed that agencies that require extensions to their respective country programmes should proceed with extension requests.	Discussions are ongoing between the UNCT and the Senior Management Group (integrated mission) on whether to extend the 2014-2016 Integrated Strategic Framework or to develop a new integrated strategic framework to begin in 2017.